15. Director, National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories, New Delhi.
16. Director, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad.
17. Representative of Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.
18. Chairman of National Human Rights Commission or his Nominee.
19. A representative of the Bioethics group.
20. Prof. P.N. Tandon, Emeritus Scientist, AIIMS, Chairman, National Bioethics Committee, DBT.
21. Director, Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad.

Funds for Science and Technology

1009. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tenth Five Year Plan has a provision to provide additional funds for the development of Science and Technology in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Government has placed an outlay of Rs. 25,243.00 crores in the Tenth Five Year Plan for the Central Scientific Departments namely Department of Atonomic Energy, Department of Ocean Development, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and Department of Space, as against an outlay of Rs. 12,022.17 crores during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The allocation for the Tenth Five Year Plan is more than double the allotment made during the Ninth Five Year Plan, which indicates Government's commitment to development of science and technology.

Progress of Bio-Tech in **country**

1010. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps his Ministry have taken or proposed to take to simplify

the regulatory procedures in biotechnology and ensure that the country is able to tap its potential to the maximum extent;

(b) whether it is a fact that India has emerged as one of the biotech leaders in the Asia-Pacific region according to the recently released global biotech report; and

(c) in what manner Government are thinking of making India a biotech outsourcing hub in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Madam, Government of India had constituted Task Force on 'Applications on Agricultural Biotechnology' and 'Recombinant Pharma Sector' to suggest modifications in the existing regulatory procedures in agriculture and pharmaceutical areas in order to simplify and streamline the regulatory procedures for speedy introduction of biotech products. The report of the Task Force on 'Applications on Agricultural Biotechnology' is under consideration of the Government and the Task Force on 'Recombinant Pharma Sector' is yet to submit its report.

(b) Yes, according to Ernst and Young Global Biotech Report, India is ranked at 3rd position in the Asia-Pacific region based on the number of biotech companies established in the country.

(c) The Government is continously providing administrative, financial and infrastructure support for promotion of Indian Biotech industry. With its abundant high quality-low cost technical manpower, partnership between industry and academia and also with foreign collaborators in contract research, manufacturing, co-marketing, technology transfer and joint research and development agreements particularly in bio-pharmaceutical area India is emerging as biotech outsourcing hub.

Opportunities for outsourcing in Genetic Engineering

1011. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are ample opportunities for outsourcing in genetic engineering from USA and other advanced countries of the world;

(b) if so, in what manner his Ministry is planning to gear itself to meet the requirements of outsourcing;